

An aerial photograph of a large, winding body of water, likely a reservoir or a large lake, surrounded by dense green forests. Some residential areas with houses and roads are visible along the shoreline. The water is a deep blue color, and the surrounding land is a mix of green trees and some cleared areas.

# ***Maryland Commission on Climate Change***

## ***Climate Action Plan***

Cover Photo: Still Pond Creek on the Upper Eastern Shore  
Ben Longstaff IAN Image Library ([www.ian.umces.edu/imagelibrary/](http://www.ian.umces.edu/imagelibrary/))



# ***Climate Action Plan Maryland Commission on Climate Change***

Prepared for:  
Martin O'Malley, Governor  
State of Maryland  
and the Maryland General Assembly

***August 2008***

*The Commission and the Maryland Department of the Environment would like to acknowledge the dedicated services of the Center for Climate Strategies (CCS), which helped facilitate the Commission's stakeholder process and technical work. The CCS team, led by Ken Colburn and Gloria Flora, provided a forum for advanced discussion by diverse Commission stakeholders on climate strategies and solutions. The knowledge and expertise of the CCS professionals supported an environment that was science- and consensus-based and collaborative, and has resulted in a Climate Action Plan in which the Commission and Maryland citizens can take justifiable pride.*



# **Climate Action Plan**

## **Maryland Commission on Climate Change**

### **Executive Summary**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Comprehensive Assessment of Climate Change Impacts in Maryland**  
*Scientific & Technical Working Group*
- 3. Climate Change Impacts on Maryland and the Cost of Inaction: A Review and Assessment**  
*The Center for Integrative Environmental Research (CIER) at The University of Maryland*
- 4. Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas and Carbon Footprint Reduction Strategy**  
*Greenhouse Gas & Carbon Mitigation Working Group*
- 5. Comprehensive Strategy for Reducing Maryland's Vulnerability to Climate Change**  
*Adaptation & Response Working Group*
- 6. Building a Federal-State Partnership**
- 7. Legislative Update and Next Steps**

### **Appendices**

- A. Executive Order Establishing the Maryland Commission on Climate Change*
- B. Membership Lists*
- C. Inventory & Forecast*
- D. Policy Options for the Greenhouse Gas & Carbon Mitigation Working Group*
- E. Policy Options for the Adaptation & Response Working Group*
- F. Comments from Stakeholders*

